

CLASSIFICATION

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

25X1A

TOPIC Staaken Airfield

25X1C

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT 14, 16 and 17 March 1951

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 9 April 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

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1. On 14 March 1951, a formation of eight ground attack aircraft flew over the Staaken (N 53 Z 65) airfield at about 2 p.m. heading south. Visibility was good, cloud base was about 2,000 meters with 9/10 degree cloudiness. The planes were flying in two flights of four planes each, one line close behind the other. (1) The two formations broke south of the field and then assembled in four elements of two, one after the other. About 5 minutes later, the formation returned to the field formed two lines over the airfield. This was repeated twice. Then the eight aircraft formed one row, made a wide circle over the field, and landed on the runway at a distance of about 500 meters. It could not be determined whether the planes were stationed at the field.
2. On the morning of 16 March, four twin-engine Dakota transports landed at the field in elements of two at intervals of about 20 minutes. (2) The two last planes had a yellow-bordered red Soviet star on the fuselage and a yellow-bordered yellowish brown star on the upper third of the rudder assembly. A yellow multi-digit number, about 10 cm large, was seen on the rigid section of the rudder assembly. The number could not be discerned. At about 9 a.m. after the four aircraft had landed, two twin-engine transports took off from the field and circled over the Doeberitz (N 53 Z 65) troop training grounds until about noon. At the same time, firing with heavy guns was heard from the troop training grounds.
3. On 17 March, two PO-2s, three twin-engine transports, and 36 ground attack aircraft, the latter arranged in two rows, were parked in front of the closed hangars. (3) At about 8:30 a.m. the take-off point was being set up in the northwestern section of the field. A radio truck with a red antenna, a fire truck and two trucks were parked there. There was a small red flag stuck into the ground about 100 meters from the radio truck, toward the center of the field. Several fuel containers were seen in the northern section of the field on the same site where a unit formerly stationed at the field had stored its semi-underground containers. The containers seen were similar to those formerly observed there. (4) About 50 gasoline barrels, each with a capacity of 200-liters, and larger drums with a capacity of about 400 to 500 liters were also located there.

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Three sentries patrolled along the northern section of the field. Empty bomb crates were piled in two large heaps near the bomb storehouse, where a sentry was posted. No changes were observed in the western section of the field at the radio installation with a rotary searchlight. (5)

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Comments.

- (1) This observation again confirms that one ground attack squadron is subdivided into flights of four planes each.
- (2) The twin-engine aircraft probably belong to the air transport squadron stationed in Staaken.
- (3) The type and number of aircraft indicate that the occupation of the airfield has not changed. One air transport squadron and one ground attack regiment are believed to be stationed in Staaken.
- (4) The new fuel containers were probably transferred with the ground attack regiment from Jueterbog to Staaken.
- (5) The radio installation is an Adcock DF which was previously reported.

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